

In addition to his work with the WaterReuse Association, Bob was also active with many other associations and organizations, including the following: the Association of California Water Agencies, California Groundwater Association, National Groundwater Protection Council, National Water Resources Association, American Water Works Association, the California Water Education Foundation, ALERT—the California Flood Control Association, the California Association of Sanitation Agencies, American Desalting Association, Water Environment Federation, California Water Pollution Control Association, and the California WaterReuse Association. Bob's personal contributions to these organizations was also noteworthy. In recognition of his hard work, Bob was nominated in 1996 for the Athalie Richardson Irvine Clark Prize sponsored by the National Water Research Institute. To be nominated by his peers for this award is a true honor to the contributions and dedication of Bob Gross.

Although, Bob achieved significant successes through his work and involvement with the Santa Clara Valley Water District, the WaterReuse Association, the Corps of Engineers, and numerous other organizations, he also compiled an impressive record of personal and academic studies, projects, and papers on water issues. After earning a Bachelor of Science degree from San Jose State University, a Master of Sciences degree in aquaculture from Nova College International Campus, and a Doctor of Philosophy in Environmental and Water Engineering from Nova College Europe, Bob served as an advisor for fifteen years to the Board of Fellows at the University of Santa Clara, and was an adjunct faculty member at Fareslston and Nova College. Bob has conducted studies on the impact of human pollution on water supplies and wildlife habitat, and he issued a summary paper on the ecological engineering multipurpose facility. On water purification issues, Bob wrote summary papers on recycling wastewater for potable use in San Jose, the reorganization of Santa Clara Valley Water District, and finally on a merger of all water producing agencies.

And, in addition to all of his many years of hard work, service and commitment to water issues, Bob has also been honored in other areas as well. Perhaps most notably, Bob was the recipient of the Commendation Ribbon with Pendant from the Secretary of the Army for Meritorious Service in Korea. Bob has also long been a supporter of the Boy Scouts of America, serving as a member of the Board of Directors and District Chairperson. In recognition of his tremendous accomplishments and service to the Boy Scouts of America, Bob was awarded the Silver Beaver Award, one of Scouting's highest honors.

Bob Gross has posted an exceptional record of achievement and success. He has served his country and his community tirelessly for many years. It is, Mr. Speaker, truly a privilege to recognize Robert Gross for the outstanding contributions that he has made to the Santa Clara Valley Water District and the people of Santa Clara County. I am grateful for his service and wish him all the best in his well-deserved retirement.

## TRIBUTE IN MEMORY OF FORMER CONGRESSMAN HENRY B. GON- ZALEZ

SPEECH OF

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 5, 2000*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor a remarkable man and true American patriot, former Congressman Henry B. Gonzalez. He passed away on November 28, 2000 at the age of 84, after 37 years of dedicated service in the House of Representatives.

"Henry B," as his friends affectionately called him, was first elected to Congress in 1961, becoming the first person of Mexican-American heritage to represent Texas in the House. A well-known champion of the poor and the downtrodden, Henry B. fiercely defended his principles and was unafraid to stand up against the powerful from the moment he was sworn into office. To this day, his constituents in San Antonio and thousands of people across the country continue to reap the benefits of this courageous fight for safe and affordable housing.

An unabashed pioneer for populism, Henry B. was perhaps best known for his prominent position on the Banking Committee, and its Chairman for three terms. He used his leadership role on the committee to help repair the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp., monitor the activities of the Federal Reserve System and pass numerous pieces of legislation aimed at cleaning up the savings and loan scandal.

Henry B. began his legendary political career shortly after his admirable service in World War II, when he was elected to the San Antonio City Council. In 1957, he reached the Texas Senate where he made a name for himself with a 22-hour filibuster to block legislation that would have reinforced school segregation policies. Henry B.'s reputation as a staunch defender of civil rights stayed with him throughout his career in the House, spanning nearly four decades.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my fellow colleagues to join me today in remembering the Honorable Henry B. Gonzalez. Henry B. truly set a standard by which all Members of Congress can be measured, and he will be sorely missed by everyone in this body who had the pleasure of working with him. His honor, his vision, and his passion for equality will live forever in the hearts of all those whom he touched. I would also like to take this opportunity to extend my heartfelt condolences to Representative CHARLIE GONZALEZ and his family during this extremely difficult time.

## TRIBUTE TO MS. YVONNE A. GRIFFIN

**HON. BARBARA LEE**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 7, 2000*

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to an outstanding federal government employee, Ms. Yvonne A. Griffin. On January 4, 2001, Ms. Griffin will retire from the United States General Services Administration after a distinguished 28 year career marked by dedication,

commitment to service and a superb work ethic.

A native of San Francisco, Yvonne began her government service in April 1971, as an "intermittent" GS-4 clerk-Steno for the General Services Administration's Space Management Division. In 1975 she began working in GSA's Federal Supply Service where she served as a Secretary, Administrative Assistant and Administrative Officer to the Regional Commissioner.

Yvonne joined the Public Buildings Service in 1980 as a Program Analyst. In 1984, she made an important career move to the field of Property Management. She served as the Property Manager in Reno, Nevada where she worked until 1987. In April 1987, Yvonne came to Oakland, California as the East Bay Property Manager. Housed in leased space at 1333 Broadway in Downtown Oakland, Yvonne and her staff were responsible for numerous federal properties, including the Alameda Federal Center, the U.S. Geological Survey complex in Menlo Park, the United States Court of Appeals in San Francisco, the San Jose Federal Building and the John F. Shea Federal Building in Santa Rosa. More importantly, she was actively involved in the construction of what was to become the Ronald V. Dellums Federal Building and has served as Senior Property Manager to the present day.

In architectural terms, buildings are said to have "footprints"—the physical outline of the ground they cover. Since its opening in 1993, the Ronald V. Dellums Federal Building has had a "footprint": covering far more than physical space. Thanks to Yvonne, the building's footprint has extended to the East Bay community at large. "1301 Clay Street" is an address that has come to represent a spectacular gathering place always open to people of diverse philosophies. Following Yvonne's lead, the GSA staff have focused on making the people who, in fact, own this exquisite structure feel welcome and respected.

Under Yvonne's management, the Ronald V. Dellums Federal Building, has won numerous awards, the most prestigious being the 1997-98 Building Owners and Managers Association International Government Building of the Year, and the 2000 Energy Star Designation.

The daughter of French immigrants, Yvonne inherited both an affinity for hard work and a devotion to family. Her daughters, Michelle and Suzanne Griffin, and her grandsons McKinley and Cameron Parker, are the stars in her life's constellation. As she ends her federal career, she takes with her our appreciation, respect and warmest best wishes for a happy retirement with those she loves.

## TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE VICENTE CEPEDA BERNARDO, MAYOR OF YONA

**HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD**

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 7, 2000*

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, as elected public officials, we know the hard work and the personal sacrifices it takes to earn the trust and mandate of our constituencies. In my home island of Guam, there are no elected officials who are closer to their constituencies,

or work harder in their behalf, even after an election, than our village Mayors. Prior to 1990, the title of these public servants was changed from commissioner to mayor, but their role in the villages did not change, and our dependence upon them, especially during typhoons and village-wide activities, did not diminish over the years.

Guam is a small place with a relatively small population, and our people are not far removed from their elected officials—myself included. This intimacy, and the expectation of direct and immediate access, is especially true of our Mayors. They are called upon in a multitude of ways—often to address problems having little or nothing to do with the delivery of community service, but to assist with private, familial matters. Whether it is to accept representative membership on a task force to address an island-wide youth problem, dropping out of school, for example, or helping Mr. and Mrs. Villager talk to their son Johnny into staying in school, village Mayors are expected to attend personally to village matters, large or small. This is the case of the Honorable Vicente Cepeda Bernardo, the Mayor of Yona, my home village.

In a few weeks, Mayor Bernardo will leave office after having served for many years. More than simply being one of my constituents, Mayor Bernardo is a long-time neighbor and friend. I am one of his constituents. Like my fellow villagers, I turn to Mayor Bernardo to address problems in Yona.

It would be too easy to let Mayor Bernardo's record of accomplishments speak in his behalf. The streets he named in honor of Yona's fallen military sons and those residents deserving of the recognition are numerous indeed. The capitol improvement projects he pushed for—the street lights, five hydrants, pump stations and water lines, the police koban, the village gymnasium, the village library, the paved roads and more—now benefit Yona and the rest of the island. The many, many community activities that he spearheaded earned praise for the whole village. But as extensive as it is, Mayor Bernardo's list of accomplishments does not convey how well he knew and understood the people of his village. It does not convey his deep and abiding love for his neighbors or how much he had given of himself over the years. I am privileged, as his constituent, neighbor and friend, to commend him for his achievements and to thank him for the many, many hours he has

contributed beyond the regular eight-hour, five-day work-week.

As his constituent, my family and I have benefited in countless ways from his devotion to duty and his responsiveness to the needs of the village. I worked with him when I was the President of the Parent Teachers Organization at M.U. Lujan. Lorraine, my wife, worked with him on many community projects and served with him as an appointed member of the Mayor's Community Council. Our entire family worked with him on other community projects and he performed his duties with dignity and with the attention to the needs of his community exemplified his public service.

I join Mayor Bernardo's family, relatives, friends and fellow neighbors in acknowledging his service to the community of Yona and to Guam. On behalf of the people of Guam, I proudly congratulate him for successfully taking on one of the most challenging and demanding public offices in Guam. And as a fellow public servant, I send my warmest and most grateful *si Yu'os ma'ase*. *Maolek todo i che'cho'-mu, amigo-hu, para i benifisium todo i toatao Guam. Ma sen agrede si setbisium-mu* (thank you very much. The work you have done on behalf of the people of Guam has been outstanding. The people of Guam truly appreciate your services).

#### HONORING MARILYN CULPEPPER

#### HON. SONNY CALLAHAN

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 7, 2000*

Mr. CALLAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize Marilyn Culpepper for her dedication to the health and well being of Monroe County, Alabama, citizens.

Marilyn Culpepper was appointed to the Monroe County Hospital Board in July 1996 and elected its chairwoman by unanimous vote of the board a few months later. She served as chairwoman from 1997 to 2000. Mrs. Culpepper has since moved to Mobile, and I wish her well as she takes on new challenges.

A native of Grove Hill, Alabama, Mrs. Culpepper is a 1980 graduate of the University of West Alabama (formerly Livingston University) and was the recipient of that school's Alumni of the Year Award in 1996.

Over the years, she has had several successful careers and civic achievements. In

1986, at age 27, she was elected to the Sumter County Board of Education. She was elected a second time in 1988 and served with distinction until moving to Monroe County in 1991.

In Monroe County, Marilyn Culpepper served first as associate editor, then managing editor of the award-winning weekly newspaper, *The Monroe Journal*. She also distinguished herself through community service in several capacities. To name a few, she was president and/or board member of the Monroeville Area Chamber of Commerce, the Monroe County Public Education Foundation, and the Monroeville Kiwanis Club (where she was the first woman elected as "Kiwanian of the Year"). She also served as a volunteer for the Monroe County Heritage Museums, and for the Alabama Writers Symposium during their inaugural year. In addition, she served in Israel as the representative of the Monroe County Commission and the Monroeville Area Chamber of Commerce during performances of "To Kill a Mockingbird." Manifesting her talent, Mrs. Culpepper is a two-time recipient of the Alabama Medical Association's Douglas L. Cannon Recognition for Excellence in Medical Journalism.

As editor of *The Monroe Journal* and, later, economic developer for Monroe County from 1997–2000 and as chairwoman of the Monroe County Hospital Board, Mrs. Culpepper was an advocate for accessible health care for all citizens regardless of age, social or economic status. She was a driving force behind expansion of hospital services and creation of a rural health clinic in Monroe County.

Under Mrs. Culpepper's leadership, the hospital in Monroeville embarked on a major expansion and construction project, the creation of a cancer-treatment center and the development of a diabetes support program. She also oversaw the creation of the Monroe Health Foundation and has been a contributor to the foundation.

Today, Mrs. Culpepper serves as executive director of the Historic Mobile Preservation Society. Her commitment to community development—preservation, education, and innovation in enriching the lives of all citizens continues. She is committed to developing a regional network of cultural, civic and humanitarian efforts to benefit all residents of south Alabama and continues to be a friend to Monroe County and Monroe County Hospital in this endeavor.